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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a plurality of nodes reports from a subset of nodes of a wireless communication system wherein a nodes report of the plurality of the nodes reports includes one or more node communication related parameters of said subset of nodes collected by a reporting node;

~~detecting a hidden node in a wireless communication system by analyzing a nodes report received from a subset of nodes~~ the one or more node communication related parameters; and

detecting a hidden node based on the analyzing.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising:

sending a request to generate the nodes report.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing comprises:

detecting an unreported node; and

activating a hidden node protection on a reporting node.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein analyzing comprises:

detecting a signal strength below or equal to a threshold; and

activating a hidden node protection mechanism on a reporting node.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein activating a hidden node protection mechanism comprises:

enabling a request-to-send/clear-to-send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein activating a hidden node protection mechanism comprises:
 sending a subset of power adjustment commands to a subset of nodes based on the nodes report.
7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating a hidden node protection mechanism comprises:
 enabling a request-to-send/clear-to-send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.
8. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating a hidden node protection mechanism comprises:
 sending a subset of power adjustment commands to a subset of nodes based on the nodes report.
9. (Canceled).
10. (Canceled).
11. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 receiving a plurality of nodes reports from a subset of nodes of a wireless communication system wherein a nodes report of the plurality of the nodes reports includes one or more node communication related parameters collected at a reporting node; and
 activating a hidden node protection mechanism based on the one or more node communication related parameters of a received said nodes report.
12. (Original) The method of claim 11, comprising:
 receiving a request to generate a nodes report.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein generating the nodes report comprises:
generating a table of nodes that includes a received signal strength indicator for
subset of node .

14. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein activating a hidden node protection
mechanism comprises:
enabling a request-to-send/clear-to-send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein activating a hidden node protection
mechanism comprises:
adjusting a transmitted power level.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

A receiver to receive a plurality of reports from a subset of nodes of a wireless
communication system, wherein a report of the plurality of reports includes one or
more node communication related parameters; and

a hidden node detector to detect a hidden node in a wireless communication
system based on ~~a nodes said~~ report generated from one or more communication
related parameters of a received nodes report received from a said subset of nodes
collected at a reporting node.

17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, comprising:

a transmitter to send a request to generate the received nodes report.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, comprising:

a controller to activate a hidden node protection mechanism.

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the one or more node
communication related parameters includes a signal strength indicator and the

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hidden node detector is able to detect a hidden node by analyzing ~~a reported~~ the signal strength indicator ~~of a node at the nodes report~~.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the hidden node detector is able to detect a hidden node by detection of an unreported node at the nodes report.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request-to-send/clear-to-send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a transmitted power control mechanism that includes a subset of desired transmitted power levels related to the subset of nodes.

23. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a node report generator to generate a nodes report by collecting one or more node communication related parameters from a subset of nodes of a wireless communication system; and

a controller to activate a hidden node protection mechanism based on nodes report.

24. (Canceled).

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[24]]~~ 23, wherein ~~the~~ the nodes report generator is able to generate the ~~node~~ nodes report that comprises a table that includes at least a received signal strength indicator for said subset of ~~node~~ nodes.

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26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request to send/clear to send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.
27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein a hidden node protection mechanism comprises a power controller to adjust a power level of a transmitter according to a received power level.
28. (Currently Amended) A wireless communication system comprising:
a station to generate a nodes report of a subset of nodes of the wireless communication system wherein the nodes report include one or more communication related parameters of said subset of nodes; and
an access point to detect a hidden node by analyzing said communication related parameters ~~properties~~ of the nodes report .
29. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the access point is able to activate a hidden node protection mechanism to protect the station from transmissions of the hidden node.
30. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein said communication related parameters comprises a signal strength indicator of the subset of nodes and the access point is able to detect a hidden node by analyzing a reported said signal strength indicator ~~of a node at the nodes report~~.
31. (Currently Amended) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the access point ~~is able~~ is able to detect a hidden node by detection of an unreported node at the nodes report.

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32. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 29, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request-to-send/clear-to-send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.

33. (Original) The wireless communication system of claim 28, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a transmitted power control mechanism that includes a subset of desired transmitted power levels related to the subset of nodes.

34. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

- a dipole antenna to receive a hidden node protection command;
- a node report generator to generate a nodes report by collecting one or more node communication related parameters from a subset of nodes of a wireless communication system; and
- a controller to activate a hidden node protection mechanism based on the hidden node protection command.

35. (Canceled).

36. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[35]]~~ 34, wherein the nodes report generator is able to generate the ~~node~~ nodes report that comprises a table that includes at least a received signal strength indicator for said subset of ~~node~~ nodes.

37. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the hidden node protection mechanism comprises a request to send/clear to send (RTS/CTS) control mechanism.

38. (Original) The apparatus of claim 34, wherein a hidden node protection mechanism comprises a power controller to adjust a power level of a transmitter according to a received power level.

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39. (Currently Amended) An article comprising:

a storage medium, having stored thereon instructions, that when executed, result in:

receiving a plurality of nodes reports from a subset of nodes of a wireless communication system wherein a nodes report of the plurality of the nodes reports includes one or more node communication related parameters of said subset of nodes collected by a reporting node;

~~detecting a hidden node at a wireless communication system by analyzing a nodes report received from a subset of nodes~~ the one or more node communication related parameters; and

detecting a hidden node based on the analyzing.

40. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

sending a request to generate the nodes report.

41. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

detecting an unreported node; and

activating a hidden node protection on a reporting node.

42. (Original) The article of claim 39 wherein the instructions when executed, result in:

detecting a signal strength below or equal to a threshold; and

activating a hidden node protection mechanism on a reporting node.